

Bottomless Lake  
bottomless\_lake.crd, as

BOTTOMLESS LAKE by John Prine  
>From the album "Aimless Love", Oh Boy Records, 1986

Play with capo on 3rd fret, ie actually in key of A#  
I'm not certain I've tracked down all of the chords in  
the verse. I've got a sneaking suspicion that there's at  
least one variation on an A chord there somewhere, but I  
can't tell for the life of me what it is.  
Anyway, the following seems to work for me.

(Guitar Intro: G C C C G G G D D D G G G (twice))

G  
Here's the story of a man and his family  
D G  
And a big trip that they took

I heard all about it in a restaurant

D  
And I read it in a history book  
C G  
They rented a car at the Erie Canal

C  
But the car didn't have no brake

G  
Said ma to pa my God this car  
D G  
Is gonna fall into the bottomless lake

(guitar: repeat intro)

Well mama turned to daddy with a pale face  
She said I've done something horribly wrong  
The water's still runnin' in the bathtub  
And I think I left the kitchen light on  
Then I heard a crash, the car went splash  
The compass rolled around and around  
Oh, for heaven's sake we fell in a lake  
And I think we're all gonna drown

CHORUS

G D  
We are falling down  
G  
Down to the bottom of a hole in the ground

Smoke 'em if you got 'em  
C G  
I'm so scared, I can hardly breathe  
D G  
I may never see my sweetheart again

(guitar: repeat intro)

There was plenty of food in the back seat  
And the windows were rolled up tight  
So we all nibbled on a chicken leg  
And told stories way through the night  
Pa told one that he told before  
And the baby got a bellyache  
Said ma to pa, my God this car  
Is falling down the bottomless lake

CHORUS

(guitar: repeat intro)

Papa played the music on the radio  
Mama rocked the baby to sleep  
He said he would'a taken the other road  
But he didn't think the lake was that deep  
If the ferry'd been there at the end of the pier

We'd be half way to Uncle Jake's  
Instead of lookin' at fish out the window, I wish  
We'd hit the bottom of the bottomless lake  
(repeat) Instead of lookin' at fish out the window, I wish  
We'd hit the bottom of the bottomless lake

#### CHORUS

(guitar: repeat intro twice)  
So if you're ever goin' on a big trip  
Ya better be careful out there  
Start everything on your good foot  
Wear clean underwear  
Take along a bible in the back seat  
Read of David and of Solomon  
Coz if you make a mistake in the bottomless lake  
You may never see your sweetheart again  
If you should make a mistake in the bottomless lake  
You may never see your sweetheart again  
(repeat) If you should make a mistake in the bottomless lake  
You may never see your sweethearts again

That's right...